

CELEBRATING THE CITY OF  
TOLEDO'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. DARLENE HOOLEY**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 17, 2005*

Ms. HOOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the City of Toledo's 100th birthday. For a century this Oregon town has stood on the shores of Yaquina Bay at the foot of Oregon's Coast Range.

From the beginning Toledo grew and prospered because of the area's abundant natural resources, and timber has long provided the economic base for the community. In its early days, many small sawmills processed the surrounding lumber while the closely located waterways provided easy transport. World War I brought the U.S. Army Signal Corps to Toledo to build a large sawmill and logging railroads into the woods, providing the small town the infrastructure to harvest the nearby stands of spruce and fir. Today, Georgia-Pacific's factory in Toledo remains one of the largest employers in Lincoln County, and Plum Creek Timber continues to manage timberlands in the Coast Range to ensure that timber will remain an abundant resource in Toledo's future.

Toledo has seen a lot in its 100 years. It has faced many changes, yet throughout it all, it is still thriving, ready to face another century. So, Mr. Speaker, I stand before you on this 17th day of February, 2005 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Toledo and convey my warmest regards to its residents.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF STEPHEN  
LEITER

**HON. PETER T. KING**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 17, 2005*

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the tragic and untimely passing of Stephen Leiter who was an outstanding attorney and business leader in the Long Island community. Most importantly, however, Steve Leiter was a close friend to me and countless other Long Island residents.

I had the privilege of knowing Steve Leiter and his wife Glenda for more than thirty years. During that time I always marveled how Steve could be so active in so many businesses, community, political and sports endeavors, be a loving husband and father, and still have so much time for his friends.

Steve Leiter was extraordinarily successful in his professional life, but even more so in his personal friendships. He was always there for those who needed him and he always had a ready smile and warm greeting for you.

I express my sincere condolences to Steve's widow Glenda, his son David, who worked for me several years ago, and his daughter Lindsay. As tragic as Steve's passing is, I hope that Glenda, David and Lindsay will find consolation in the knowledge that Steve Leiter's memory will be cherished by so many. May he rest in peace.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CITIZENS  
INVOLVEMENT IN CAMPAIGNS  
(CIVIC) ACT

**HON. THOMAS E. PETRI**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 17, 2005*

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today, Rep. PAUL KANJORSKI and I are introducing bipartisan legislation to establish a program of limited tax credits and tax deductions to get average Americans more involved in the political process. This bill, the Citizens Involvement in Campaigns (CIVIC) Act, will broaden the base of political contributors and limit the influence of big money donors in federal elections.

We need to take a fresh look at innovative approaches to campaign finance reform, with special attention paid to ideas that encourage, and not restrict, greater participation in our campaigns. Toward this end, I have been advocating tax credits and deductions for small political contributions for many years. An updated tax credit system would be a simple and effective means of balancing the influence of big money donors and bringing individual contributors back to our campaigns. The impact of this counterweight will reduce the burden of raising money, as well as the appearance of impropriety that accompanies the money chase.

Most would agree that the ideal way to finance political campaigns is through a broad base of donors. But, as we are all painfully aware, the economic realities of modern-day campaigning lead many candidates to focus most of their efforts on collecting funds from a few large donors. This reality alienates many Americans from the political process.

The concept of empowering small donors is not a new idea. For example, from 1972 to 1986, the federal government offered a tax credit for small political contributions. This provided an incentive for average Americans to contribute to campaigns in small amounts while simultaneously encouraging politicians to solicit donations from a larger pool of contributors. Currently, six geographically and politically diverse states (Oregon, Minnesota, Ohio, Virginia, Arkansas, and Arizona) offer their own tax credits for political contributions. These state-level credits vary in many respects, but all share the same goal of encouraging average Americans to become more involved.

The CIVIC Act can begin the process of building this counterweight for federal elections. This bill is designed to encourage Americans who ordinarily do not get involved in politics beyond casting a vote every two or four years (that is, if they bother to vote at all) to become more active participants in our political process.

The CIVIC Act will reestablish and update the discontinued federal tax credit. Taxpayers can choose between a 100% tax credit for political contributions to federal candidates or national political parties (limited to \$200 per taxable year), or a 100% tax deduction (limited to \$600 per taxable year). Both limits, of course, are doubled for joint returns. As long as political parties and candidates promote the existence of these credits, the program can have a real impact and aid in making elections more grassroots affairs than they are now.

A limited tax credit for political contributions can be a bipartisan, cost-efficient method for

helping balance the influence of large money donors in the American electoral process. Instead of driving away most Americans from participation in political life, we can invite them in. It seems to me that this will be a fruitful way to clean up our system, while at the same time convincing Americans that they actually have a meaningful stake in elections.

HONORING NASHVILLE'S HISTORICALLY  
BLACK COLLEGES AND  
UNIVERSITIES

**HON. JIM COOPER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 17, 2005*

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Black History Month, I am honored today to pay tribute to Nashville's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU's) Fisk University, Meharry Medical College, and Tennessee State University. These institutes of higher learning are among the more than 115 HBCU's across the United States. While originally founded to teach freed slaves to read and write, today they welcome and educate students from a wide range of races and ethnic backgrounds.

Fisk University's founding can be traced back to the days following the abolishment of slavery in America. Six months after the Civil War ended and two years after the Emancipation Proclamation, the first classes at Fisk University began on January 9, 1866. On this date, former slaves from the young to the very old openly began their quest for learning. No longer having to hide books that were forbidden to them, they could express their passion and enthusiasm for learning and pursue the path to true freedom and dignity . . . education. Since its inception, Fisk's faculty and alumni have been among the most intelligent, creative and civic-minded individuals in America. Amid its many graduates have been W.E.B. DuBois—the great writer, social critic and co-founder of the NAACP, and Booker T. Washington—the great educator and founder of Tuskegee University. Thurgood Marshall, who later became the first African-American Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, participated in the famous Fisk Race Relations Institute. Today, 68 percent of Fisk's attendees are African American.

During the reconstruction period in the United States, the health of poor Americans received little attention and Nashville had the worst mortality rate in the country. The most dismal health conditions were among the blacks who suffered disproportionately from death and disease. In October 1876, the Meharry Medical College was founded and established as the Meharry Medical Department of Central Tennessee College by the Freedman's Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. This college was formed to educate freed slaves and bring health care to the community's poor and underserved. Meharry has continued in that custom, and now is home to the Lloyd C. Elam Community Mental Health Center and the United States' first Institute on Health Care for the Poor and Underserved. Meharry is the largest private, historically black institution that is dedicated to educating healthcare professionals and biomedical scientists in America. Over-one-third of the black

physicians and dentists currently practicing in the United States graduated from Meharry Medical College. A significant number of these graduates practice medicine in under-served rural and inner-city communities. Meharry's student population is over 70 percent African American.

In harmony with the goals of HBCU's, Tennessee State University began offering two-year degrees to African American students in 1912. In 1922 it became a four-year teachers college and in 1958 was elevated to a full-fledged land-grant university by the Tennessee State Board of Education. Tennessee State University has been consistently named in the U.S. News & World Reports Guide to America's Best Colleges. The University continues serving a diverse group of students under the motto . . . "enter to learn, go forth to serve." Its African American population is 78 percent.

In addition to these HBCU's, I would also like to recognize the American Baptist College of Nashville, formerly known as the American Baptist Theological Seminary. Along with Fisk University, this seminary was a site of the civil rights movement and graduated our esteemed colleague, Congressman JOHN LEWIS, who was one of the nation's key leaders in the civil rights struggle and is now referred to as the conscience of the U.S. Congress.

In honor of Black History Month and on behalf of the Fifth Congressional District of Tennessee, I congratulate Historically Black Colleges and Universities for their continued service in providing excellence in education not only to African Americans, but all races and ethnic groups that pursue higher learning. I also salute the American Baptist College and the many other institutions of higher education that continue to bring forth the best and brightest.

IN HONOR OF THE LATE DR.  
RUSSELL KING HELTSLEY

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2005

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Dr. Russell King Heltsley of Hopkinsville, KY, for his contributions to his community, church and family. Dr. Heltsley passed away on December 13, 2004. Dr. Heltsley was a founder of the Hopkinsville, Kentucky Crime Stoppers, a member of the Lions Club and served on the board of directors for the Christian County Health Department. Dr. Heltsley was born on January 26, 1933. He was the son of the late King and Nola Withers Heltsley.

Dr. Heltsley served Hopkinsville as an optometrist for more than 40 years. He successfully owned and operated Heltsley Eye Care. In addition, Dr. Heltsley served his country in the United States Army as a First Lieutenant.

Dr. Russell Heltsley was a loving husband, father and grandfather. He was known for his dedication to his family.

I appreciate this opportunity to add his eulogy to the Congressional RECORD of the 109th Congress.

FOR EVERY REMEMBRANCE OF RUSSELL  
PHILIPPIANS 4: 8-9; PHILIPPIANS 1:3-5

DECEMBER 16, 2004.

Fredrick Buechner, preacher and writer, wrote a book back in 1984 entitled, *A Room*

Called Remember. In Chapter 1, last page, he makes an insightful statement. "Remember him who himself remembers us as he promised to remember the thief who died beside him. To have faith is to remember and wait, and to wait in hope is to have what we hope for already begin to come true in us through our hoping."

We are coming up on the 4th Sunday in Advent, 2004. It is the season for remembering and hoping. It is a time of remembering and waiting. It is a season of hope.

In the Epistle lessons from Philippians just read, the missionary apostle says to his fellow Christians: "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you all, making my prayer with joy, thankful for your partnership in the gospel . . ."

As members of the community of faith, each of us has our own remembrances of Dr. Russell Heltsley.

Helen, you will remember the time you had Russell over to your parents' home when you were dating. Thinking you had prepared the delicious meal, seeing only your mother in the kitchen upon his arrival, gave him a lot of concern. Later, he admitted to you, "It bothered me a lot."

You will remember Russell coming home from the hospital following your surgery, and eating the food you cooked before entering the hospital, and hearing him tell me he was cooking for you. I thought that sounded strange and you confirmed later that all Russell was doing was warming up the food you had cooked.

John and Russ, you will always remember your dad telling you boys, "Always do what's right, whether or not it is popular." May his tribe increase. Russ and John, you will long remember how proud he was of his family. The entire family will remember his greatest disappointment in life was not living to see his grandchildren grow up. You who are members of the Lions Club will remember Helen coming to help clean up because her husband couldn't do his part by helping with the cooking.

Members of the Kentucky Optometry Association will remember Russell, who held every position in the Association, as the one who always watched the "purse strings". Why am I not surprised?

All of Russell's friends will remember, for whatever reason, he seldom ate out. Conservative? Yes!

I will remember Russell as a devoted member of First United Methodist Church where I served twice as one of his pastors. He was so predictable, even in his seating patterns. Confirmed in 1947 by Dr. A. C. Johnson, he remained faithful to his confirmation vows for the rest of his life.

Grandchildren, you will remember him as a controlling grandparent who loved you very much. Russell had a good sense of humor. After fitting me with my first pair of glasses in the late 1970's, he reminded me that First Methodist folk would now think they have "an old preacher". We will remember his love for the farm and his dogged support of the Kentucky Wildcats.

In these verses from Philippians 1 and 4, Paul, the Missionary Apostle, is speaking to the Philippian congregation. In the first passage, he says to his fellow Christians: "I thank my God in all y remembrance of you all, making my prayer with joy, thankful for your sharing in the gospel . . ." Memory is a gracious gift from God Almighty. We don't know when our memory will be taken from us and we will be poor indeed. I well remember those early days of my ministry at Hopkinsville First Church, and his family members are part of that memory bank.

Today, we can say Russell has "fought a good fight, has finished his course, and has kept the faith." In Philippians 4: 8-9, Paul

admonishes his friends in the church to a life of piety. These six qualities of a committed life were the qualities of Russell's life:

Whatever is true: Little did I know in 1977, when I became Russell's pastor, I would be entertaining an angel unawares. He taught that young minister, through his dedicated life to Christ, how to act conscientiously, by the standards of truth based on Holy Writ. Russell's convictions were based on what he believed the truth to be. The truth was never negotiable. He lived the lesson of truth! Yes, he did!

Whatever is honorable: Russell was truly a gentleman. A Christian gentleman. An honorable gentleman. The *Interpreter's Bible* reminds us that the Greek word literally translated, reads: "worthy of reverence". Very fitting, huh? His code of ethics was based on the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes. He didn't have a copy of either posted on his front lawn. Didn't need to!

Whatever is just: Russell lived out the doctrine of justice. In his daily life, and in all his social contacts, he was a fair and just gentleman. He always played by the rules of fairness, compassion and justice.

Whatever is pure: A good translation of these words is this: "Purify yourself of all mean spirits." Russell didn't have a mean bone in his body. No he didn't! Stubborn, but not mean! You know something? He never, not one time, told me "Howard, I have purified myself of all mean spirits." He just quietly went about the business of living a good life.

Whatever is lovely: Again, the *Interpreter's Bible* says the original meaning was, "What-ever is worthy of love." (Agape). Russell had a love relationship with all of us, which was directly related to his love for our Savior Jesus Christ. Now, separated by almost 30 years from the time I first met Russell, that memory is just as vivid as ever. He loved the Lord. He loved his brothers and sisters in Christ. He loved his family!

Whatever is gracious: The King James Version translates the statement this way: "Whatever thing are of good report." I like that. Don't you? Russell blessed me with his positive and loving spirit. He was truly gracious, always of a good report. That's Russell. Always spoken well of. Always held in honor. The time I have left in this world, I sincerely want to put these qualities to work in my life. Things I have observed in Russell.

Following Russell's death, "Rock-a-Bye Baby" was being played on the hospital intercom in celebration of the birth of a baby. Russell would have liked that.

#### CONCLUSION

Thank God of every remembrance of this wonderful servant of Christ. J.B.F. Wright wrote the words of an old Gospel song which is part of my yesterdays of faith. Verse one is my favorite:

"Precious memories, unseen angels,  
Sent from somewhere to my soul:  
How they linger, ever near me,  
And the sacred past un-fold."

Kipling's beautiful poem says it all:

WHEN EARTH'S LAST PICTURE IS PAINTED  
RUDYARD KIPLING (1982)

When Earth's last picture is painted and the tubes are twisted and dried,  
When the oldest colours have faded, and the youngest critic has died,  
We shall rest, and, faith, we shall need it—lie down for an eon or two,  
Till the Master of All Good Workmen shall put us to work anew!

And those that were good shall be happy:  
they shall sit in a golden chair;  
They shall splash at a ten-league canvas with brushes of comets' hair;  
They shall find real saints to draw from—  
Magdalene, Peter, and Paul;